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HA-09 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-16 L-01 ADS-00
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P-01 SNP-00 SP-00 SS-00 TRSE-00 T-00 USIE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5464

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 KIGALI 00111

YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: PGOV, RW

SUBJECT: TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS: NO BREAKTHROUGH

CONFIDENTIAL

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REF: (A) KIGALI 0086, (B) KIGALI 0045

- 1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. SUMMARY. A MARATHON MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA AND AN RPF DELEGATION, BROKERED BY THE TANZANIANS, FOUND NO COMMON GROUND FOR OVERCOMING THE IMPASSE IN ESTABLISHING RWANDA'S TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS. RPF AND OTHER OPPOSITION PARTIES DEFERRED DEMANDS FOR INSTALLATION OF TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS DURING THE WEEKEND BECAUSE OF HIGH LEVEL MEETING. THE ENTIRE DIPLOMATIC CORPS PLANS JOINT DEMARCHE ON THE FOUR KEY PLAYERS TO URGE DIALOGUE AND ACTION. PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE IS TO HOLD MEETING

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: HARRY R MELONE

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

DECLASSIFY AFTER: 10 JAN 2009

DATE/CASE ID: 24 MAR 2006 200103014

UNCLASSIFIED

OF POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS 1/10 TO REVIEW THE SITUATION. SOURCE SAYS HE'S READY TO COMPROMISE. END SUMMARY.

HIGH LEVEL MEETING

3. THE TANZAMIAN AMBASSADOR BROUGHT PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA AND THE RPF TOGETHER AFTERNOON OF 1/8 IN A FIVE AND ONE HALF HOUR MEETING THAT DID NOT OVERCOME THE OBSTACLES TO INSTALLING THE TRANSITION IMSTITUTIONS. THE WAS, HOWEVER, THE FIRST HEAD-TO-HEAD BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE RPF SINCE THE RPF CAME TO KIGALI. THE DISCOURSE WAS COURTEOUS AND BOTH SIDES HOPED FOR FURTHER MEETINGS. THE RPF DELEGATION, HEADED BY RPF VICE-PRESIDENT PATRICK MAZIMHAKA, REDEDICATED ITSELF TO IMPLEMENTATION OF CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KIGALI 00111 01 OF 03 101419Z THE ARUSHA PEACE ACCORD BUT INSISTED ON SEATING IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY THE PL DEPUTIES ELECTED LAST SEPTEMBER RATHER THAN THOSE ELECTED LATER WHO ARE PREFERRED BY THE PRESIDENT. IN A JOINT COMMUNIQUE, THE TWO SIDES REAFFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO REPECT THE PEACE ACCORD, END THE CAUSES OF INSECURITY, AND FIND A SOLUTION TO THE IMPASSE BLOCKING INSTALLATION OF THE TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS. THEY CALLED FOR DIALOGUE AND MUTUAL RESPECT AMONG ALL THE ACTORS AND SUGGESTED A MEETING BE HELD 1/9 TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS. ALSO PRESENT AT THE MEETING WERE THE CURRENT PRIME MINISTER, THE UN/SYG'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, AND THE OAU/SYG'S REPRESENTATIVE. THE RPF AGREED TO THE MEETING EVEN THOUGH IT WAS HELD AT THE PRESIDENT'S VILLA AND WITHOUT THE PRIME MINISTER DESIGNATE, AS THEY HAD EARLIER DEMANDED.

CEREMONIES DEFERRED

4. AS THE POSSIBILITY FOR A HIGH LEVEL MEETING DEVELOPED, THE RPF AND THE GROUP OF PARTIES CURRENTLY OPPOSED TO THE PRESIDENT, I.E., THE MDR/TWAGIRAMUNGU, THE PL/LANDO, THE PSD AND THE PDC, APPARENTLY DEFERRED EARLIER DEMANDS FOR THE INSTITUTIONS TO BE INSTALLED DURING THE WEEKEND. THE RPF, IN A 1/6 LETTER, HAD CALLED ON THE PRESIDENT TO END HIS INTERFERENCE IN OTHER ORGANS OF THE STATE AND INSTALL THE INSTITUTIONS BY 1/8. THE LETTER DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT THE RPF WOULD DO IF ITS DEADLINE WENT UNMET.

5. ALSO ON 1/6, THE MDR, PSD, PDC, AND PL ADDRESSED CONFIDENTIAL

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A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT BLAMING HIS INTERVENTION IN
THE PROCESS FOR THE CURRENT IMPASSE. SPECIFICALLY,
THEY BLAMED HIM FOR INTERFERING IN THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF THE LISTS OF DEPUTIES, IN DETERMINING THE MEMBERS
OF THE GOVERNMENT, IN ORGANIZING THE SWEARING-IN
CEREMONIES, AND FOR SCHEDULING THE SWEARING-IN OF THE
ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNMENT ON DIFFERENT DAYS. THEY
CALLED FOR THE INSTITUTIONS TO BE IN PLACE BEFORE THE
END OF THE WEEKEND.

PRIME MINISTER AND PRESIDENT REACT

6. THE PRIME MINISTER RESPONDED TO THESE CHALLENGES

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5465

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BY ANNOUNCING A SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR 1/8 FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE GOVERNMENT. THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET DIRECTOR RESPONDED TO THE PRIME MINISTER WITH A QUESTION: COULD SHE ASSURE THE PRESIDENT THAT ALL THE POLITICAL FORCES IN THE COUNTRY WOULD BE PRESENT FOR THE CEREMONY? HE NOTED THAT SUCH ABSENCES HAD FORCED POSTPONEMENT OF THE EARLIER CEREMONIES.

CHURCH LEADERS PROPOSAL	
7. CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT CHURCH LEADERS MET ALL DAY 1/7 TO DISCUSS THE IMPASSE. AT THE END OF THE DAY, THEY ISSUED PROPOSALS FOR COMPROMISE BETWEEN THE FACTIONS OF THE MDR AND OF THE PL. TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT EVERYONE IS NOW ANGRY WITH THE CHURCH LEADERS BECAUSE THEIR PROPOSAL SUITED NOONE.	1.4(B), 1.4(D)
DIPLOMATS CONVENE	
AD WESTERN DIPLOMATS DECIDED 1/7 TO SEEK SUPPORT FROM OTHER MEMBERS OF THE KIGALI DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN A COMMON DEMARCHE TO THE KEY PLAYERS.	1.4(B), 1.4(D)
ONCE THE OTHER DIPLOMATS, MOSTLY AFRICAN, DETERMINED	·

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THEY AGREED. THE GROUP DECIDED TO BREAK INTO FOUR
GROUPS OF FOUR EACH TO PRESENT A COMMON DEMARCHE TO
THE PRESIDENT, RPF, THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE PRIME
MINISTER DESIGNATE.

MATCHED THOSE OF A PROPOSED AFRICAN GROUP STATEMENT,

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9. THE PROPOSED DEMARCHE, FAXED TO DEPARTMENT, CALLS FOR STRICT RESPECT OF THE PEACE ACCORD, EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNAL SECURITY AND A CLIMATE OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE AMONG THE PARTIES FOR NATIONAL

RECONCILIATION, AND CALLS FOR THE TRANSITION							
INSTITUTIONS TO BE PUT IN PLACE WITHOUT DELAY, AS							
REQUESTED IN SCR 893. THE DEMARCHE SUPPORTS THE							
AFRICAN GROUP'S STATEMENT AND THAT OF THE SRSG.							
DELIVERED THE DEMARCHE TO THE PRESIDENT MORNING							
1/10; HE REPORTED NOTHING NEW EMERGED. THE GROUP							
HEADED BY MET CURRENT PRIME MINISTER SAME							
MORNING. THE EXCHANGE WAS GOOD; THERE WAS NO							
INDICATION OF A WAY OUT OF THE IMPASSE. DEMARCHES TO							
THE OTHER DARTES ARE TO FOLLOW							

1.4(B), 1.4(D)

DEMONSTRATIONS TURN VIOLENT

10. PRO-HABYARIMANA DEMONSTRATORS BLOCKED ACCESS TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY EARLY MORNING 1/8, THE DAY THE PRIME MINISTER HAD SET FOR SWEARING IN ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES AND THE GOVERNMENT. THE GENDARMERIE AND UNAMIR TROOPS RESPONDED TO OPEN ROADBLOCKS AND END ATTACKS ON CARS AND PEOPLE WITH STICKS, STONES, AND KNIVES. ALTHOUGH THE DEMONSTRATORS WORE NO UNIFORMS, THEY WERE REPUTEDLY MOSTLY MEMBERS OF THE MRND YOUTH GROUP, THE INTERAHAMWE.

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SRSG SPEAKS OUT

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11. SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL BOOH BOOH MADE TWO STRONG STATEMENTS DURING THE WEEKEND. THE FIRST REFERRED TO SCR 893 IN WHICH THE SECURITY COUNCIL CALLED FOR INSTALLATION SOONEST OF THE TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS. BOOH BOOH CALLED FOR AN END TO THE "WAR OF THE PRESS COMMUNIQUES" AND NEVERENDING THREATS AND ULTIMATUMS IN FAVOR OF CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE. THE SBCOND CONDEMNED

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SATURDAY'S ILLEGAL DEMONSTRATIONS BY THE INTERAHAMWE AND OTHER MILITIAS OF THE SAME POLITICAL TENDANCY AS COUNTER TO ESTABLISHING SECURITY CONDUCIVE TO INSTALLING THE TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS.

ANOTHER TRY?

12. A SOURCE CLOSE TO PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE TOLD DCM THAT THERE WAS TO BE ANOTHER MEETING 1/10 OF ALL POLITICAL ACTORS TO TRY TO BREAK THE IMPASSE BLOCKING INSTALLATION OF THE TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS. HE SUGGESTED THAT TWAGIRAMUNGU WAS READY TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT COMPROMISE WITH HIS OPPONENTS IN HIS OWN PARTY, THE MDR, AMD THAT COMPROMISE WAS LIKELY IN THE PL AS WELL. WE SHALL SEE.

COMMENT

13. A SECOND WEEKEND HAS PASSED WITHOUT A HINT OF COMPROMISE ON THE POLITICAL IMPASSE BLOCKING INSTALLATION OF THE TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS. THE LONGER THE SITUATION PERSISTS, THE MORE POLARIZED IT IS LIKELY TO BECOME AND THE GREATER THE CHANCES OF MORE VIOLENCE. THE DIPLOMATS WILL CONTINUE TO URGE

DIALOGUE AND COMPROMISE, BUT THE BREAKTHROUGH WILL DEPEND ON THE WILL OF THE ALL PARTIES INVOLVED TO MOVE FORWARD WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEACE ACCORD. IT APPEARS THAT THOSE INVOLVED HAVE DECIDED THAT ALL MUST MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER DESPITE THREATS TO THE CONTRARY.

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